

**Minutes of the meeting of the Steering Group of the Neighbourhood Plan on Monday October 9<sup>th</sup> 2017 at 7 pm in Seaford Town Council offices**

**Present:** Keith Blackburn (Chair), Mark Brown (Vice Chair & Deputy Mayor), Faustino Bayo (AIRS), Fiona House (Local Economy & Facilities Focus Group and Green Spaces Review Group), Charlie Grimble (Housing & Development Focus Group), Sylvia Dunn (Green Spaces Review Group), Debbie Ward (Green Spaces Review Group), Richard Honeyman (Councillor STC), John Alcock (Housing & Development Focus Group) Margery Diamand (Green Spaces Review Group) and Jane Keel (Minute Taker).

**In attendance:** Kate Ryland Ecologist Guest and 12 members of the public.

**Apologies:** Were received from Di Bushell, Linda Wallraven and George Taylor.

**1) Minutes of the last meeting of 25<sup>th</sup> September 2017** were unanimously agreed.

**2) Matters arising – None**

**3) Housekeeping**

Declarations of interest – none

Budgets – Nothing to report

Website – 15,403 hits on the website since inception. Facebook is being regularly looked at.

**4) Project Plan (KB)**

KB stated that from now on the timetable is out of our hands. To move on, STC has to agree the recommendations being published, hopefully at their meeting of 19<sup>th</sup> October.

The Draft Plan and Sustainability Appraisal will be issued as soon as possible afterwards. Further working papers will also be published on the website.

There will then be a formal public consultation for Regulation 14.

This will have a 7 week consultation period before Christmas. The

key is to get feedback from the public. FB stressed how important it was for people who were happy with the plans said so because if only those who objected gave feedback it presented a very false image of the situation.

Moving forward, there will be:

- Another Public Consultation in April/May for Regulation 16, organised by Lewes District Council, who will also appoint an Examiner/Inspector in May/June 2018.
- The Examiner will hold a public session
- LDC decides what action is necessary in response to the Examiner's Report.
- There will be a Public Referendum in Autumn 2018 and, only if the majority vote yes, the report will be adopted by LDC .
- Winter 2018/19 –hopefully the Plan will be adopted and planners/developers must adhere thereto.

## **5) Update on Dane Valley Consultancy**

CG had spoken to AECOM Consultants' Project Manager who expects a draft to be ready prior to the STC meeting of 19<sup>th</sup> October. It was hoped that it will exceed the required number of residences to meet the 185 homes target.

ESCC have agreed in principle to a grant to fund further specialist consultants work, providing land owners pay 50% of the cost. In addition, a financial viability assessment has been arranged and it is anticipated that the work will take 3-4 weeks. **Action: Charlie**

## **6) Plans for Regulation 14 Public Consultation**

The Draft Plan will have Planning Policy recommendations and Community Aspirations.

KB explained the importance of the Sustainability Appraisal for the benefit of attendees.

Provisionally there will be two public consultation sessions – 15<sup>th</sup> November in Clinton Hall if possible and Saturday morning on 9<sup>th</sup> December, both subject to availability. Philip Pople suggested a further meeting be held in Bishopstone Village Hall on a Saturday

morning which was agreed, details later and, of course, subject to availability.

FH reported we have missed the November deadline for Seaford Scene – press releases to usual outlets and hard copies of the draft to be left in the library, tourist information office, and possibly in surgeries etc.

There will be posters and flyers.

**Action:**

**Fiona and Keith assisted by All**

**FB to send through a template** for a response questionnaire for this consultation.

**7) Questions from members of the public**

Anne Gracey referred to an article in Seaford Scene regarding Community Land Trusts and wanted to know if the Steering Group had considered this. It was noted that Steering Group planned to consider the possibilities.

AG further wished to know whether any new building in the SDNP would count towards the Seaford figure or not – FB stated it would not.[since the meeting LDC have confirmed it would count towards the target in the very unlikely event of this happening].

Miles Holford wanted to know about Retained Policy SS11 with regard to protection for Bishopstone Valley. As far as the Seaford Plan is concerned, it was confirmed it will be kept but it also falls into South Downs National Park

Philip Pople wanted to know if there was any mention of historic features in the open landscape – there are 3.5 miles of flint walls. In response it was explained that this not a specific issue in the Plan but an aspect of protecting views.

Alison Machel wanted to know what degree of detail had gone into the sustainability report. Ed J wanted to know what the sustainability aims were. It was explained that this would be clear when the Plan and Appraisal were published after consideration by STC.

**8) Any other business – None.**

**9) Dates of next meetings : 13<sup>th</sup> November, 11<sup>th</sup> December.**

